

No. 20,266. Registered at the General Post Office, Sydney, for transmission by post as a Newspaper.

[For Notices of Births, Marriages, Deaths, &c., see page 8.]

SUMMARY.

Mr. Balfour, the British Premier, has emphasized his declaration that Great Britain will not penalise her colonies in regard to the agreement made at the Balfour Convention.

Additional announcements have been made that the command of the home fleet will, in May next, be divested from the command of the naval reserves.

Comments made by the Africanus Bond upon the Captain that Mr. Chamberlain's misrepresentations on Dutch journalists and Ministers have done great harm.

Magnates under the Liquor Act recently passed in England are earnestly reducing the number of licences.

Mr. Hofmeyr and Mr. Schweizer, two of the African House leaders, have had a conference with Mr. Chamberlain.

The Australian Supreme Court has awarded £1,000,000 dollars for the annulment of market concessions at Cairns.

Fresh excitement has been caused in Venezuela by German applications to have to enter Lake Maracaibo to obtain oil to travel in the interior.

It is stated that it would be unreasonable not to apply in London an educational system on the lines of that and principles as applied in the rest of the country.

Financial opinion looks on Australian stocks as the Australian is borrowing too freely, that most stocks are unchartered, and that immigration restriction has created a bad impression.

A picture of the Savour has been stolen from St. Paul's Cathedral, St. Peter's Square. It is valued at £500.

Lord Grey's Trusts for the management of public houses in the interests of the community are said to have two years' trial, to have been highly successful.

Jealousy and incipient dissatisfaction have arisen in the Afghan army, owing to Afghani regiments having been encircled by the Amirs. The Amirs have issued a general order to the Afghan forces.

Yours, &c.,—C. G. COOPER, of the House of Commons.

That the Anglo-German co-operation with regard to Venezuela was suggested by Germany.

In England it is expected that a home fleet will be reorganized and strengthened, and that a step is to be taken towards solving the problem of a North Sea Fleet.

At his interview with Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Hofmeyr made a statement that the Afghani Regime was not a fit instrument.

Comments respecting the New Zealand loan are to the effect that the underwriters will be satisfied with the greater portion of it.

General Hutton, in a letter to the chairman of the National Rifle Association in Sydney, emphasizes the importance of the rifle as the best means of the best shot to compete in the rifle rifle matches.

Three men charged with making counterfeit coins were sentenced at the Adelaide Criminal Court yesterday, one to imprisonment for life and the other for 10 years.

A syndicate in Queensland has proposed to lease the Cooktown railway line, to work the passenger traffic with motor cars, establishing a bi-weekly service with the steamer.

The Inspector-General of Queensland estimates the value of the State at the end of last year at £1,450,000—an increase of £430,000 as compared with the previous year.

Refugee to a deposition which noted for a loan to the Queen's Treasury and yesterday that the most enormous in England, the prospect of a large sum of money, and the sale of the Queen's Widows' Bazaar, were the market.

At present, and the financial agent of the Government in London would arrange for a loan at the earliest opportunity.

The Factors Association in Victoria recommends the formation of Courts of Conciliation for dealing with labour disputes. The State being divided into six districts for that purpose.

Arbitration, Conciliation, Supreme Court Judge and Arbitrators are also recommended.

On the early closing question the enactment of legislation similar to that in force in other Australian States is suggested.

It has been decided by the Victorian Government to spend nearly £2,000,000 new locomotives for use on the State railways.

Many persons at Nairobi who made application to the Government for new wheels have informed that their applications are refused.

In reply to a private from G. C. Cooper respecting the value of land for tax purposes, the Taxation Commissioners state that the 1906 valuation does not in many instances represent the true value of the land.

The case of an estate in the locality of Nairobi was valued at £10 an acre for taxation purposes, but which the local land board found was worth £35.

The New South Wales Public Service Board has issued a statement of S. W. J. Lyne that the Federal Public Service was worked more cheaply than that of State.

It is pointed out that the bulk of the Federal Service is agricultural, and the State under State management were economically worked.

Sir William Lyne left for Melbourne last night, and will stay there until towards the end of next week.

Sir Edmund Barton proposes to return to Melbourne from Tasmania on the 19th instant, and to convene an important Cabinet meeting there before returning to Sydney.

A unsuccessful attempt has been made by the Minister for Agriculture to have the Australian Government modify its prohibitory regulations against the importation of fruit from this State.

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GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

ROSEHILL RACE.

TO-DAY, SATURDAY.

SPECIAL TRAINS FOR PUBLIC CLASS PASSENGERS
will leave Sydney for Rosehill Racecourse at 12.55 p.m.; FIRST CLASS at 12.55 p.m.; SECOND CLASS at 12.55, 1.25, 1.55 p.m.; and for Races at 1.55 p.m.

RETURN FARES (including steamer General Gordon): First-class, 6s 6d; Second-class, 6s 6d.

FARE (Return): First-class, 6s 6d; Second-class, 6s 6d.

REFRESHMENTS can be obtained on the ground.

RAIL AND RIVER EXCURSIONS.

TO-MORROW, SATURDAY.

FOR THE HAWTHORPE RIVER.

Train will leave Sydney at 10 a.m., and Milson's Point at 12.55 p.m. The river trip will occupy five hours. Services by rail and by steamer.

RETURN FARES (including steamer General Gordon): First-class, 6s 6d; Second-class, 6s 6d.

FARE (Return): First-class, 6s 6d; Second-class, 6s 6d.

REFRESHMENTS can be obtained on the ground.

SPECIAL CHAP EXCURSIONS

TO THE COUNTRY.

SPECIAL CHEAP EXCURSION TICKETS at 10d per head First-class Return (minimum 6s), and 10d per mile Second-class Return (minimum 6s), will be issued to any intermediate suburban station, and also stations outside the metropolitan suburban area, to stations beyond on the respective lines by the following trains from Sydney.

The tickets will be available for Return for one Calendar Month from the date of issue by Train as specified on handbills and posters -

TO THE NORTHERN LINE AND BRANCHES.

To stations on the Woy Woy and beyond, at 12.55 p.m. on

TO THE WESTERN LINE.

To Main Line stations beyond Wallerawang, and to the Mayfield, Gosford, Crows, Warri, Culca, and Bremerton Branch Lines, at 12.55 p.m. on MONDAY, 2d MARCH.

To Springwood, to stations Lavan to Wallerawang, inclusive, and to the Goulburn Line, at 6.55 a.m. on TUESDAY, 3d MARCH.

To stations on the Condobolin Line, at 7.30 p.m. on TUESDAY, 3d MARCH.

To stations on the Cessnock Line, at 9.05 p.m. on TUESDAY, 3d MARCH.

THE PRESENT CHAMBER IN THE TEMPLE.

New and Elaborate Scene Effects by Mr. H. WHITHE and Assistant.

BOX PLAN AT PALING'S, GEORGE-STREET.

ACT-L-Parlour at the Hyde Hotel, Old Town Comfort.

ACT-II-Suite at the Royal Hotel, Old Town Comfort.

ACT-III-Suite at the Royal Hotel, Old Town Comfort.

COUNSELLOR'S OPINION.

John Bendwill, Esq., Counselor to Mr. T. Cannon.

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Musical Director, Herr GUSTAVUS SLAPACKOFF.

The Pianist, Miss MARY WALLACE.

The Pianist, Miss MARY WALLACE.

Master Stephen Halliday

Miss Lovell (his Mother, a young widow).

Mrs Lovell (his Mother, a young widow).

TIME THE PRESENT, CHAMBER IN THE TEMPLE.

New and Elaborate Scene Effects by Mr. H. WHITHE and Assistant.

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THE PRESENT CHAMBER IN THE TEMPLE.

BY ARNOLD BENNETT.

PART I.

LORELEY.

CHAPTER II.—Continued.

"What time does the train leave Charing Cross?" Sylviane asked her husband.

"Twelve forty," said Mrs. Cavalois. "We have to be off by half past twelve. Perhaps you will be up in thirty minutes. Perhaps you have something to say to Arthur. He and I and the Doctor will go into the drawing-room."

"Yes, mamma," answered Sylviane, and disappeared.

"Now Arthur," began Mrs. Cavalois, when they had crossed the corridor into the drawing-room. She held up a finger playfully.

"Yes, mamma," he replied, following her lead, and meekly folding his hands behind him. "What are the married couple?"

"You are a married man, Arthur."

"I suppose I am. But it seems too good to be true."

"Arthur, you think so?" she queried, and speaking he nodded.

"You will soon find it is true enough."

"Yes, you," he said. "What do you mean?"

"Marriage is very commonplace."

"Mine will not be."

"But you have had a good time again."

"Perhaps you are right," she said.

"But let me come to my points. You know all about the great tragedy of Sylviane. It happened. She seems to have forgotten it, but that can never be. Watch over her, Arthur. I know that all mothers are as anxious about their sons-in-law, but you are aware that in this case there is a special reason."

"Yes, you," he said eagerly. "You know all about it, Arthur. Still, there is no harm in reminding you that although you have married a widow, you have also married a woman of good and respectable girl. And now, my second point."

"I attend to my business."

"Certainly. This is the proper time. It is your duty. Who knows what may happen?"

"Ay!" put in the doctor, sententiously.

"A settlement was out of the question," he said. "You were compelled, I think, to marry her. You were compelled, I think, that I should make a will in favour of your wife."

"I shall be delighted," said Arthur, "if I have an annuity or four hundred a year, which of course ceases at my death. Shall I bequeath that to Sylviane?"

He raised a hand as though in plaintive.

"Don't make fun of your poor mother-in-law. You might possess property later on. It is even conceivable that you might, though I fancy your profession of artist is not an excitingly remunerative one."

"True," said Arthur, sticking his lips grimly together. "But I will leave to Sylviane all that I have or ever shall have."

That is what I want. Here is a pen. There isn't much time."

"What do I write?" said he, sitting down.

"Write as I dictate," said Dr. Colpus, looking suddenly at Mrs. Cavalois. "I have witnessed many wills, and I know the form well. And you ready?"

"Ready," said Arthur, with a poised pen.

"This is the last will of me," said Arthur.

Colonel Forrester, I believe, all my property of whatsoever nature to my wife, Mrs. Sylviane. Dated this 20th day of June, 1902."

"That is all?" the testator inquired, rather surprised.

"That is all," said the Doctor, "except the witness, which is rather important. Will you be kind enough to attend to that? Sign it first, please."

It appeared as if Dr. Colpus had taken charge of the proceedings.

"Listen, Sylviane," Arthur called out a moment afterwards, when his beautiful wife entered the room, "I have a will to sign to my wife."

"I, Arthur Clinton Forrester, bequeath all my property of whatsoever nature to my wife, Mrs. Sylviane."

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SPECIAL CABLES.
FROM THE "HERALD'S" LONDON CORRESPONDENTS.

VENEZUELA.

ANGLO-GERMAN CO-OPERATION.
SUGGESTED BY GERMANY.

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IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE ADDRESS IN REPLY.

DEBATE ON THE UNEMPLOYED.

LONDON, Feb. 20. In the House of Commons last night the debate was continued on the resolution for the adoption of the Address-in-Reply to the Queen.

Mr. Kier Hardie (Labour, Methley Tydell) moved an amendment with the object of allowing the authorities to employ on the land the unemployed, and also in industries.

An interesting discussion followed.

Mr. Charles Fenwick (Liberal, Wanlock), supported the contention of Mr. W. H. Long (President of the Local Government Board), that the lack of employment had been exaggerated.

Other members of the House declared that the solution of the unemployed problem could not be found by turning the authorities into amateur farmers.

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THE SUPPORT OF THE BOND.

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AMNESTY AND RE-ENFRANCHISEMENT FOR REBELS.

COALITION GOVERNMENT DESIRED.

CONDAMNATION BY PROGRESSIVES.

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MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

Friday Evening.
In the Stock and Share market business continues to be characterized by steadiness. The conditions are still apparently favourable to speculators, but others are more inclined to shun risk. Some measure of uncertainty is created by the attitude of British creditors towards Australian Government securities; for though the securities of the Australian State at any rate is not questioned, the amount being loaned on the market tends to lower the value of the State's debts. Except such money as is derived from the Savings Bank Government must now obtain loans at 3 or 4 per cent., but will have to pay up to 4 per cent. with the result that creditors who took up the loan will obtain a slighter called price of paper and paper compares with the prime current 12 months ago as follows:—

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